

Listing of claims

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (original) An energy storage device comprising:

a case having an opening;

an electrode assembly disposed within the case, the electrode assembly including at least a positive and a negative electrode member;

a cover disposed to cover the opening of the case and defining a hole, the cover being made of aluminum and electrically connected to one of the electrode members of the electrode assembly; and

a disk-shaped plug disposed to seal the hole, the plug being made of aluminum and electrically connected to the cover, the plug further having a layer of a second metal or metal alloy other than aluminum formed on a top surface thereof and electrically connected to the aluminum to form a terminal of the energy storage device.

12. (original) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the second metal or metal alloy has a melting point higher than the melting point of aluminum.

13. (original) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the second metal or metal alloy is selected from the group consisting of nickel, stainless steel, titanium, copper, and alloys thereof.

14. (original) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the second metal or metal alloy layer is formed by deposition over the top surface of the aluminum.

15. (original) The energy storage device of claim 11, wherein the second metal or metal alloy layer is a clad formed within a recess of the top surface of the aluminum.

16-37 (cancelled)